



US Synthetic helps prepare Todays Students for the jobs of the Future

Utah's industry is stepping up to prepare today's students for the jobs of the future. US Synthetic is an industry member that strongly supports being involved in growing Utah's future workforce.

They've found the most success in collaborating with various non-profit and education-driven programs around the state. US Synthetic's mission is to build the world's best problem solvers in the community. They believe that problem-solving skills are the foundation for great leaders, employees, parents, teachers, and students.

While a part of what US Synthetic does involves monetary support, they also compensate their employees to volunteer in the community each year.

"For us [US Synthetic], it's about building a better community, building Utah's future workforce and building the next generation of problem solvers," said Landen Garner, Director of Engineering Good at US

Synthetic.

One example of how US Synthetic's employees get involved in the community is with Junior Achievement.



Students having fun at Infini D Learning mobile space ship simulator.



Utah County Academy of Sciences (UCAS) students on a fieldtrip at US Synthetic.

Learn more about STEM Action Center programs at stem.utah.gov



Teaching students at Dixon Middle School in Provo engaged in a problem solving challenge.

Junior Achievement—a worldwide program that helps young people prepare for the real world by educating them in work readiness, entrepreneurship and financial literacy—has an experiential learning center in Salt Lake City called JA City. In 2015, US Synthetic cut the ribbon for their new storefront at Junior Achievement.

They now send a couple employees almost everyday to volunteer at JA City, helping to engage students in science, technology, engineering and math.

“It makes for a fun day of work for our employees, and it keeps us involved,” Garner said. “This is just one of many ways that we contribute to building the next problem solving generation.”

US Synthetic works to build a strong problem solving culture within their company. In working with the community, they hope to leverage that culture by connecting with key partners to continue to build thinkers and doers. In order to solve problems, they



Chinese students from Selnate International School in Provo visit US Synthetic facility.



Teaching girls at SheTech about diamond technology by pressing candy.

have to create an atmosphere where employees can safely discuss failures and goals.

“A hero-leader versus an empower-leader is like the Batman and Yoda metaphor,” Garner said. “Batman comes in, does all the work and saves the day; whereas, Yoda makes it safe for Luke Skywalker to fail, and Luke failed all the time. Hero-leaders come in and solve the problem for you; it takes a lot more patience, but the empower-leader creates a safe environment and helps their team develop the skills to discover solutions to solve problems themselves.”

On September 14, US Synthetic will shutdown their facility in order to volunteer with United Way’s annual “Day of Caring.” They plan to teach their problem-solving curriculum in surrounding schools, and help with various other projects at local schools.

US Synthetic Key Partners Include:

- Junior Achievement
- Utah STEM Fest
- Utah STEM Action Center
- Ken Garff Keys to Success
- Infini D Learning
- Utah Underwater Robotics
- CHOICE Humanitarian
- United Way (Day of Caring)
- Utah School Districts
- UVU
- BYU

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